



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all buildings and facilities constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-217, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

Docket: **DCAB 2001-15:** Interpretive Opinion on Children's ADAAG. At intermediate schools/middle schools that serve 6th grade, does the Children's ADAAG apply, and if so, to what extent? At intermediate schools/middle schools that do not serve 6th grade, but do serve 7th grade (most children enter 7th grade at 12 years old and turn 13 during the year), does the Children's ADAAG apply, and if so, to what extent?

Summary: The Architectural Access Committee (AAC) Design Standards for Children (January 01, 1994) was superseded by the Children's ADAAG on January 01, 2001, which covers access for children ages 12 and younger. Nowhere in the ADAAG is there discussion of the extent of Children's ADAAG application in intermediate/middle schools that serve 6th graders, and at intermediate/middle schools that do not serve 6th grade but serve 7th graders that are 12-to 13-years-old. Although one of each element could be provided, their location may be difficult in schools that do not concentrate 6th graders in one area, with, e.g., bathrooms specifically designated for them. The issue of 7th graders with children turning 13 years of age during the year is more complicated, although most of these children will be able to use the lowest range of adult heights for elements.

Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS § 103-50,

Children's ADAAG

Nowhere in the ADAAG is there discussion of the extent of Children's ADAAG application in intermediate/middle schools that serve 6th graders, and at intermediate/middle schools that do not serve 6th grade but serve 7th graders that are 12-to 13-years-old. Children's ADAAG shall not be required for middle or intermediate schools which serve grade six.

[Rul: 11/01] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call us at 586-8121.

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